

Appln No. 09/722,174
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Response to Final Office Action of June 15, 2006

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of enabling payment of bills, ~~the method including the steps of~~
~~providing a person with~~ via a bill containing information relating to a requested payment, the bill including a plurality of tags, each tag containing coded data indicative of an identity of the bill and of ~~at least one reference point of a~~ location of that tag on the bill;
receiving, in a computer system, indicating data from ~~a~~ an optically imaging pen sensing device regarding the identity of the bill and a position of ~~the sensing device~~ a nib of the pen relative to the bill, ~~the sensing device~~ when placed in an operative position relative to the bill, sensing generating the indicating data using at least some of the coded data; and
identifying, in the computer system and from the indicating data, at least one parameter relating to the requested payment.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 in which said at least one parameter relating to the requested payment is associated with at least one zone of the bill and in which the method includes identifying, in the computer system and from the zone relative to which ~~the sensing device~~ is located, said at least one parameter.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 which includes
receiving, in the computer system, data regarding movement of the ~~sensing device~~ relative to the bill, the sensing device sensing its movement relative to the bill using at least some of the coded data; and
identifying, in the computer system and from said movement being at least partially within said at least one zone, said at least one parameter of the requested payment.
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Currently Amended) ~~A The method of claim 1 method of enabling payment of bills,~~ the method including the further steps of:

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~~providing a person with a bill including coded data indicative of an identity of the bill;~~

receiving, in a ~~the~~ computer system, data from ~~a the sensing device~~ open regarding an identity of ~~the a person associated with the pen;~~ and regarding the identity of the bill, the sensing device containing the data regarding the identity of the person and sensing the data regarding the identity of the bill using at least some of the coded data; and

identifying, in the computer system and from the data regarding the identity of the person ~~and the identity of the bill,~~ a the requested payment.

6. - 7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 2, 4 or 6~~ claim 1, in which the at least one parameter is an action parameter of the requested payment, the method including effecting, in the computer system, an operation in respect of the action parameter.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 in which the action parameter of the requested payment is selected from the group comprising:

requesting that payment be made, specifying a payment amount or resetting the bill to an original state.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 3, 4 or 7~~ claim 1 in which the parameter is an option parameter of the requested payment, the method including identifying, in the computer system, that the person has entered a hand-drawn mark by means of the ~~sensing device~~ open and effecting, in the computer system, an operation associated with the option parameter.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 in which the option parameter is associated with at least one of:

cardholder name, payment method or credit card type.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 3, 4 or 7~~ claim 1, in which the parameter is a text parameter of the requested payment, the method including identifying, in the computer system, that the person has entered handwritten text data by means of the ~~sensing device~~ open and effecting, in the computer system, an operation

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associated with the text parameter.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 which includes converting, in the computer system, the handwritten text data to computer text.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 in which the text parameter is associated with at least one of:

a cardholder name, an amount paid or a card expiry date.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 3, 4 or 7~~claim 1 in which the at least one parameter is an authorization parameter of the requested payment, the method including identifying, in the computer system, that the person has entered a handwritten signature by means of the ~~sensing device~~open and effecting, in the computer system, an operation associated with the authorization parameter.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 which includes verifying, in the computer system, that the signature is that of the person.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 in which the authorization parameter is associated with payment authorization.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 1, 4 or 5~~claim 1 which includes enabling the person to print the bill on demand.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 1, 4 or 5~~claim 1 which includes printing the bill on a surface and, at the same time that the bill is printed, printing the coded data on the surface.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 which includes printing the coded data to be invisible to an average unaided human eye.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~or 5~~ which includes retaining a retrievable record of each bill generated, the bill being retrievable using its identity as

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contained in its coded data.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 1, 4 or 5~~claim 1 which includes distributing a plurality of the bills using a mixture of multicast and pointcast communications protocols.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1 or 4~~1 in which the ~~sensing device~~pen contains identity data which imparts a unique identity to the ~~sensing device~~pen and identifies it as being associated with the person and in which the method includes monitoring, in the computer system, said identity.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 1, 4 or 5~~claim 1 which includes providing all required information relating to the requested payment in the bill to eliminate the need for a separate display device.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 1, 4 or 5~~of claim 1 in which the bill is printed on multiple pages and in which the method includes binding the pages.

26. (Cancelled).

27. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 1, 4 or 5~~claim 1 wherein:
a printer associated with the ~~person~~pen is caused to print a payment receipt after a payment has been completed.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the payment receipt comprises coded data indicative of the identity of the receipt.

29. (Currently Amended) A system for enabling payment of bills, ~~via the system including~~
_____a bill containing information relating to a requested payment, the bill including a plurality of tags, each tag containing coded data indicative of an identity of the bill and of at least one reference point of a location of that tag on the bill, the system including; and
_____a computer system configured for;
_____receiving indicating data from an optically imaging sensing device~~pen~~ for

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~~identifying at least one parameter relating to the requested payment, the indicating data being indicative of the identity of the bill and a position of a nib of the sensing device~~
~~relative to the bill, the sensing device sensing generating the indicating data using at least some of the coded data; and~~

identifying, using the indicating data, at least one parameter relating to the requested payment.

30. (Original) The system of claim 29 in which said at least one parameter relating to the requested payment is associated with at least one zone of the bill.

31. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29 which includes the ~~sensing device~~, the ~~sensing device~~ sensing its movement relative to the bill using at least some of the coded data.

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Currently Amended) A ~~The system for enabling payment of bills, the system including~~ system of claim 1, wherein the computer system is configured for:

~~a bill including coded data indicative of an identity of the bill; and~~

~~a computer system for receiving, from a the sensing device, data regarding an identity of a person associated with the pen; and the identity of the bill; and for~~

~~identifying, from said received data, a requested payment, the sensing device containing the data regarding the identity of the person and sensing the data regarding the identity of the bill using at least some of the coded data.~~

34. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 33 in which the coded data is also indicative of at least one parameter of the requested payment, the computer system receiving indicating data from the ~~sensing device~~ regarding said at least one parameter of the requested payment, and the ~~sensing device~~ sensing the indicating data using at least some of the coded data.

35. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 33 which includes the ~~sensing device~~, the ~~sensing device~~ sensing its movement relative to the bill.

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36. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any one of claims 29, 32 or 34~~claim 29 in which said at least one parameter of the requested payment is selected from the group comprising an action parameter of the requested payment, an option parameter of the requested payment, a text parameter of the requested payment, or an authorization parameter of the requested payment.

37. (Original) The system of claim 36 in which the action parameter of the requested payment is selected from the group comprising:
requesting that payment be made, specifying a payment amount, or resetting the bill to an original state.

38. (Original) The system of claim 36 in which the option parameter is associated with at least one of:
cardholder name, payment method, or credit card type.

39. (Original) The system of claim 36 in which the text parameter is associated with at least one of:
a cardholder name, an amount paid, or a card expiry date.

40. (Original) The system of claim 36 in which the authorization parameter is associated with payment authorization.

41. (Cancelled).

42. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~34 or 32~~29 in which the sensing ~~device~~open contains identity data which imparts a unique identity to the sensing ~~device~~open and identifies it as being associated with a particular person.

43. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any one of claims 29, 32 or 33~~claim 29 in which the bill is printed on a surface and in which the system includes a printer for printing the bill on demand.

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44. (Original) The system of claim 43 in which the printer prints the coded data at the same time as printing the bill or payment receipt.

45. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any one of claims 29, 32 or 33~~ claim 29 in which the coded data is substantially invisible.

46. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29 ~~or 33~~ which includes a database for keeping a retrievable record of each bill generated, each bill being retrievable by using its identity as included in its coded data.

47. (Original) The system of claim 43 in which, to cater for a bill printed on multiple pages, the printer includes a binder for binding the pages.